Abstract of the Invention

A tapping device is configured to be used within a drill press or lathe or other device capable of holding a cylindrical object. The tapping device has an upper projection for being axially fixed in, for example, a drill press. The remainder of the body of the tapping device is rotatable with respect to the upper projection and includes side handles for providing handy mechanical advantage to the turning of the tapping device body. The end of the body opposite the upper projection includes a chuck for holding a typical tapping tool. The projection is connected to an internal shaft which engages the body of the tapping tool and is spring biased to draw the projection and internal shaft within the body of the tapping tool. Conversely, when the tapping tool is supported in, as an example, a drill press chuck, such spring urging acts to lift the body of the tapping tool in the direction of the projection. The number and nature of the springs which act between the internal shaft and the body of the tapping tool, as well as the dimensions noted can be widely varied to accommodate a variety of force versus displacement characteristics especially taking into account the mass of both the body of the tapping tool and its tap chuck. An adapter is provided for quick change of socket supported taps.